United Nations A/66/831

General Assembly

Distr.: General
13 June 2012

Original: English

Sixty-sixth session
Agenda item 11 (a)
Sport for peace and development: building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal

Letter dated 12 June 2012 from the Permanent Representatives of the Russian Federation and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the Governments of the Russian Federation and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, we have the honour to transmit a joint statement on the Olympic Truce (see annex).

We should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 11 (a).

(*Signed*) Vitaly **Churkin**

(*Signed*) Mark **Lyall Grant**

12-37322 (E) 140612 150612

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 12 June 2012 from the Permanent Representatives of the Russian Federation and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and Russian]

Russian Federation-United Kingdom joint statement on the Olympic Truce

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation and the Foreign Secretary of the United Kingdom agreed to work together to promote and support the ideals of the Olympic Truce to build a better world and bring people from different nations and diversities together to enjoy competition through sport in a peaceful environment.

On 17 October 2011, the Russian Federation and the United Kingdom joined a record number of all 193 Member States of the United Nations who co-sponsored General Assembly resolution 66/5 on "Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal". The resolution builds on the ideals of the Olympic Truce which was established in the eighth century B.C. in order for people to travel safely to and from the Olympic Games.

Today the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Foreign Secretary agreed to use the unique opportunity for the United Kingdom and Russia, as hosts of the XXX Summer Olympic Games and the XIV Summer Paralympic Games in London in 2012 and the XXII Winter Olympic Games and the XI Winter Paralympic Games in Sochi in 2014, to cooperate closely to promote the ideals of the Olympic Truce. In particular they agreed:

- To promote internationally the ideals of the Olympic Truce to use sport, culture, education and public engagement to promote conflict prevention and the importance of peaceful societies;
- To support the contribution of youth, women and those with disabilities in promoting peace through sport, culture, education, sustainable development and wider public engagement;
- To work together and with other partners, such as Brazil, as the host of the Summer Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro in 2016, the International Olympic Truce Centre, the International Olympic Committee and the International Paralympic Committee, to increase international public interest and involvement in the ideals of the Olympic Truce;
- To reflect progress made at the United Nations level through the Organization's Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace.

Moscow, 28 May 2012